



05-20-03

RCE/3682

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
(Docket No. DKT 99083 (MHM 12840US01))

PATENT APPLICATION OF:

Hummel et al.

SERIAL NO.: 09/840,434

FILED: April 23, 2001

Confirmation No. 4174

FOR: BACK DRIVE SILENT CHAIN
SYSTEM WITH LOW PROFILE
SPROCKET

Examiner: J. Stefanon

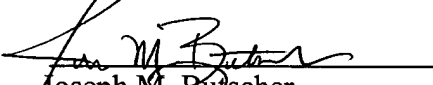
Group Art Unit: 3682

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RCE. Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box
1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.


Joseph M. Butscher

Reg. No. 48,326

Date: May 19, 2003

TRANSMITTAL

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

We enclose the following documents:

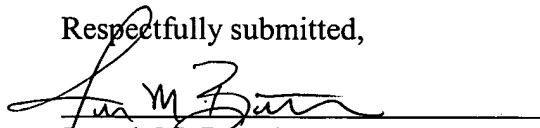
1. Request for Continued Examination;
2. Statement of Substance of Interview;
3. Petition for Three Month Extension; and
4. Check in the amount of \$1680

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any necessary fees or credit any overpayment
to Deposit Account 13-0017.

Date: May 19, 2003

MCANDREWS, HELD & MALLOY, LTD.
500 West Madison Street, 34th Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60661
Telephone: (312) 775-8000
Facsimile: (312) 775-8100

Respectfully submitted,


Joseph M. Butscher
Registration No. 48,326
Attorney for Applicants

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MAY 23 2003
GROUP 3600

- b. ☐ Enclosed
- i. ☐ Amendment/Reply
- ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
- iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
- iv. ☐ Other _____

2. Fees

The RCE fee of \$750.00 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

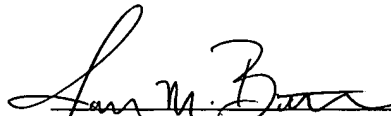
- a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 13-0017.
- i. ☐ RCE fee of \$750 required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
- ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
- iii. ☒ Other: Any overpayment or deficiency
- b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$1680.00 enclosed
- i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) (\$750)
- ii. ☒ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17) (\$930)
- c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

The Examiner is invited to telephone applicants' attorney, Stephen J. Hampton, at (312) 775-8000 if any unresolved matters remain.

Please charge any fees incurred in connection with this submission to Deposit Account No. 13-0017.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: May 19, 2003



Joseph M. Butscher
Reg. No. 48,326
Attorney for Applicants

McANDREWS, HELD & MALLOY, LTD.
500 West Madison Street, 34th Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60661

Telephone (312) 775-8000
Facsimile (312) 775-8100



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
(Docket No. DKT 99083 (MHM 12840US01))

#16/MISC paper
G. J. Scher
5-29-03

PATENT APPLICATION OF:

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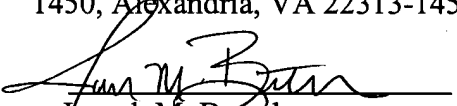
Examiner: J. Stefanon

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Joseph M. Butscher
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Date: May 19, 2003

STATEMENT OF SUBSTANCE OF INTERVIEW

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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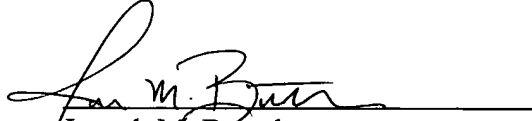
GROUP 3600

Sir:

On February 27, 2003, the Examiner Justin Stefanon conducted a telephonic interview with the applicants' attorney, Steven J. Hampton. Claims 1-9 were discussed, but agreement was not reached with respect to these claims. The Examiner noted that structural differences exist between the claims of the present application and the cited references, Ichikawa et al. and Aydelott, and that interpretation of the scope of the claims, in their current form, is the main source of disagreement over patentability. The disagreement concerns claim language that recites, in part, "the links of said inner and outer link rows form a surface that overlies the sprocket protrusions and conforms closely to said low profile protrusions...". The rejection is based on the Examiner's position that the term "conforms closely" is relative, with no language in the claim defining the extent to which the surface must conform to the sprocket to be "closely" conforming. The Examiner agrees that the rejection is not based on substantive unpatentability.

While the Examiner did not have a suggestion as to narrower language that would be allowable, he did believe that an acceptably narrowed claim could probably be developed. .

Respectfully submitted,



Joseph M. Butscher
Registration No. 48,326
Attorney for Applicants

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